



Committed to the future of rural communities.

February 2010

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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

In March 2009, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will assist in implementing \$28 billion in funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

A portion of this money will be provided to USDA Rural Development to assist projects that will improve the infrastructure in rural Iowa, including water and wastewater systems, as well as essential community facilities. In addition, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has designated \$100 million in USDA Rural Development Community Facilities funding for public libraries.



“Rural communities are important to the lifeblood of our country and the Obama Administration is committed to keeping them strong by providing Recovery Act funding to projects such as libraries that improve the quality of life in these communities.”

Bill Menner, USDA Rural Development State Director in Iowa

Project Areas of Emphasis

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act outlines the following project priorities:

- Construction ready
- Building projects

Sample Eligible Projects

- assisted living facilities ▪ child care centers ▪
- community buildings ▪ fire stations ▪
- hospitals ▪ medical clinics ▪ libraries ▪
- water & wastewater systems ▪

Eligible Applicants

- Community-based non-profits ▪ Public Bodies ▪
- Federally recognized Native American Tribes ▪

Water & wastewater systems - must be located in rural areas less than 10,000 population
Community Facilities - must be located in rural areas less than 20,000 population

ARRA Dollars

	Iowa Awards	Funds Available Nationwide
Community Facility ARRA Loans	\$600,000	\$3.9 billion
Community Facility ARRA Grants *	\$2.58 million	\$22.6 million
Water & Environmental Programs ARRA Loans	\$2.02 million	\$862 million
Water & Environmental Programs ARRA Grants	\$3.95 million	\$294 million

*Smaller requests (less than \$200,000) and those in combination with a loan or guarantee will be given more priority. All grant determinations are based on project need, priority and availability of funds. Maximum threshold established based on median household income of service area.

Application Process

Applications for ARRA funds will be processed through the local USDA Rural Development area office. Area office service areas and contact information are available on the Rural Development web site.

The application process for these new funds will remain basically the same as our normal funding and will include an extensive review process including concurrence by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Application materials are available on the Rural Development web site.

Projects being considered for ARRA funds must meet several special criteria. **First**, the Recovery Act requires the Davis-Bacon Act be followed.

Second, the Recovery Act requires that all projects receiving funding meet the Buy America criteria.

Lastly, the Recovery Act requires each recipient to agree to certain reporting criteria and certifications to assure transparency and appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.

Information regarding special ARRA criteria is available on USDA Rural Development's web site — www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia



Apply Today

USDA Rural Development is looking for new applications. Now is the time to review and complete project applications so funds can be requested. Projects receiving ARRA assistance must be ready to start quickly after receiving funds. **ARRA funds will not be available after September 30, 2010.**

If you have an application on hand with USDA Rural Development, please contact your local area office to determine its status and materials needed to receive ARRA funding. All projects are subject to an environmental review.

Ineligible ARRA Projects

▪ Aquariums ▪ Zoos ▪ Golf courses ▪ Swimming pools ▪
Casino or other gambling establishments ▪ Generators ▪ Warning sirens ▪
Playground equipment ▪ Cemeteries ▪ Museums ▪ Theaters ▪ Art councils ▪ Historic societies ▪
Sports equipment or facilities ▪ Bike paths and sidewalks ▪ Vehicles ▪ Tasers, revolvers, pistols

If you have a project that is ineligible for ARRA funding please contact us. The project may be eligible for other funding sources through USDA Rural Development.



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USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender, provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to USDA, Director, OCR, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).